



CITY OF DUBLIN

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOIN THE CITY OF DUBLIN FOR ALL THINGS IRISH AT THE 39th ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION MARCH 18 & 19, 2023

DUBLIN, Calif., February 16, 2023 – All eyes will be smiling at the City of Dublin's 39th St. Patrick's Day Celebration, which includes a two-day festival, the Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk, Dublin Historical Society's Shamrock Gala, Alameda County Firefighters Local 55 Pancake Breakfast, and Dublin Lions Club St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The weekend's festivities will begin on St. Patrick's Day, **Friday, March 17**, at the Dublin Historical Society's annual **Shamrock Gala** at the Dublin Senior Center (7600 Amador Valley Boulevard). This semi-formal event, for adults aged 21 and older, will feature hors d'oeuvres, music, dancing, plus a raffle and door prizes. Tickets are \$50.00 each and can be purchased at www.dublinhistoricalsociety.org.

On Saturday, **March 18**, revelers can start their morning bright and early at 7:00 a.m. with a big stack of hot, green pancakes served fresh off the griddle at the annual **Firefighter's Pancake Breakfast** at Fire Station #16 (7494 Donohue Drive). Breakfast also includes sausages and juice or coffee. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 per person. All proceeds benefit the Alameda County Firefighters Association-Local 55 Charity Fund, which supports local non-profit and community-based organizations.

After a hearty breakfast, residents and guests can find a spot in Downtown Dublin to watch the **Dublin Lions Club St. Patrick's Day Parade**, which begins at 9:30 a.m. The parade kicks-off at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road, traveling east on Dublin Boulevard, north on Village Parkway, and west on Amador Valley Boulevard, ending near the Dublin Senior Center. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route. The parade features more than 80 entries, including festive marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, local dance troupes, equestrians, and more.

The **39th St. Patrick's Day Festival** takes place on **Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, at the Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza). Highlights include three stages of authentic Irish music and dance; an Irish Marketplace; an Irish Tea Cottage serving up tea and scones; plenty of delicious international cuisine, including Irish food and beverages; over 250 arts and crafts vendors; and a children's carnival.

- **Entertainment** at the Festival includes two stages featuring a wide variety of Celtic music, from high-energy Celtic rock and traditional Irish Pub music to iconic bagpipes. Performing on the Main Stage both days is the Celtic folk-rock band *Tempest*; the high-energy traditional Irish band, *Fast and Vengefully*; and the *BlackEyed Dempseys*, playing traditional Celtic music with a rock ‘n’ roll hook. Also appearing on the Main Stage during the Festival will be *CaliCeltic*, a Livermore-based band playing Irish tunes influenced by their California roots. The Pub Stage will feature additional Irish bands, *One-Eyed Reilly*, *Golden Bough*, *Avalon Rising*, and *Fast and Vengefully*. In the Irish Tea Cottage, visitors can enjoy the sounds of *Extended Roots*, *Golden Bough*, *Peter Daldry*, and *Margaret & Kristoph*. The Irish Dance Stage showcases the McGrath Irish Dancers on Saturday and the McBride School of Irish Dance on Sunday. Bagpipers will roam throughout the festival over the course of the weekend.
- The **Irish Marketplace** features vendors specializing in unique Celtic artwork; Irish tartans; beautiful Celtic jewelry; handmade pewter goblets and steins; delectable Irish whiskey cakes and candies; genuine four-leaf clover jewelry; and much more.
- Visitors craving a wee bit of Ireland can step inside the cozy **Irish Tea Cottage** to enjoy lively Irish music along with tasty shortbread and scones and a steaming cup of authentic Irish tea.
- The **Celtic Food Court** features traditional Irish favorites, such as corned beef sliders; Irish bangers and mash; Guinness-marinated tri-tip on Irish soda bread; boxty; and, of course, fish and chips. Traditional festival favorites such as kettle corn and corn dogs, along with international choices, like teriyaki chicken and beef kabobs, will also be served. Authentic Guinness, Harp, and Smithwick’s beers are served on tap, and featured desserts include Irish Crème Brûlée, green shamrock-shaped funnel cakes, and Three Twins Ice Cream with custom Irish flavors. Traditional festival foods and international choices will also be available.
- The **Carnival** will offer exciting rides and attractions for guests of all ages from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on Sunday.
- New to the Festival this year will be axe throwing and an exhibition of the Gaelic Games, to be held on Sunday (time TBA). Gaelic Games include Gaelic football, handball, rounders, and hurling (the official sport of Ireland).

On **Sunday, March 19**, the City of Dublin will host the annual **Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk**. The 5K race begins at 8:30 a.m. along Dublin Boulevard near the Civic Center, and winds its way through town, finishing at the festival with live music, awards, and giveaways for participants. Register online at www.dublinrecguide.com. For race information, please call (925) 556-4500.

Festival admission is free, and free parking will also be available in designated lots and on nearby streets. Accessible parking for those with disabilities are available in the Sports Grounds parking lot on Dublin Boulevard for both the Shamrock 5K Race and for the festival. Access is available **ONLY** from the eastbound lane on Dublin Boulevard. The entrance is just past Civic Plaza. Handicapped placards must be visible to enter the lot.

Visitors can also ride BART to either the Dublin/Pleasanton or West Dublin BART stations and connect for free directly to the festival by taking Wheels Rapid 30R bus. During the festival, Wheels will pay half your fare (up to \$5) for rideshare trips within Dublin, Pleasanton, and Livermore on Uber and Lyft. For Lyft, go to “payment methods” and add a Lyft Pass with the promo code GOTRIVALLEY. For Uber, visit www.wheelsbus.com/gotrivalley and download the Uber voucher. The *Go Tri-Valley* discounts will be automatically applied. Free and secure bike parking will also be available onsite.

All festivities will be held rain or shine. Please call (925) 556-4500 or visit www.DublinStPats.com for more information.

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